

## **REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF PROGRAM**

for persons age sixty-five and older or totally disabled

Dear Homeowner,

## Tax Relief will begin February 1, 2023

Enclosed is the application for Norfolk's Real Estate Tax Relief for 2023-2024. There is no change to the applicable gross income limits, net worth or to the Disabled Veterans program.

The City of Norfolk provides a Real Estate Relief Program for citizens age sixty-five and older or totally disabled. A summary of the program guidelines is below.

- Applications must be filed between Feb 1<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered for tax relief.
- All applicants must complete an application, the long form, annually.
- Available funding is determined annually.
- The average assessed value of \$203,386 is used in determining the amount of tax relief.
- Tax relief is provided as an exemption or deferral of taxes up to the average assessed value.
- Qualifying participants with gross income of less than \$28,611 will receive a tax
  exemption for homes up to the average assessed value of \$203,386. If any taxes remain
  after the exemption is applied, the citizen may opt to defer the remaining taxes or
  request to be billed.
- Qualifying participants with gross income of \$28,611.01 and less than \$67,000 per year will receive a tax deferral of a percentage (80% 20% based upon income) up to the average assessed value of \$203,386. Any amounts not eligible for deferral are billed.

What is the difference between exemption and deferral?

- Exempt taxes will not be billed or owed later.
- Deferred taxes will be paid to the city upon the sale of the dwelling or from the estate of the decedent without penalty or interest within one year after the death of the last owner who qualified for the tax deferral.

**NOTICE:** Applicant is responsible to meet any requirements imposed as part of any Promissory note or Deed of Trust. It is the applicant's responsibility to confirm that any deferment granted will be recognized by the applicant's mortgage lender prior to submitting the application. Failure of a mortgage lender to recognize the City of Norfolk Tax Deferral program is a matter solely between the applicant and the mortgage lender.

How will the cap impact potential benefits for this year?

- The amount of tax deferrals may be prorated when the total relief requested exceeds the total relief available. The proration is applicable to households that receive a tax deferral of a percentage (20% 80%).
- When will I know if I am eligible and for how much?
- The calculation of relief is applied after all applications have been received and processed. The benefit determination is anticipated to be July 1<sup>st</sup> with letters to follow.

Return the completed application along with the required verifications no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>. The application can be mailed to 741 Monticello Ave Norfolk, VA 23510

If you need further information or assistance, please call (757) 823-1130. To request an application, you may call (757) 664-6035 or visit <a href="https://www.norfolk.gov/humanservices">www.norfolk.gov/humanservices</a>.

Sincerely,

Norfolk Department of Human Services Valerie W Hurt, Associate Director for Benefits & Self-Sufficiency